GROUND ZERO

VOICE 1-719-635-6086
FAX 1-719-635-6106

GROUND ZERO
PO Box 1982
Colorado Springs
Colorado 80901

JANUARY 17, 1994

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It's time for us to be proactive rather than reactive. We must prepare in advance to meet the challenges of the radical right. Ground Zero has developed a campaign for 1994 that we believe should and will be embraced by the whole community. The enclosed brochure briefly explains the main points of this campaign.

Although Amendment 2 has been ruled unconstitutional by a Colorado court and many people believe we are back to the position we were before the battle began, nothing could be further from the truth. Because of the malicious anti-gay campaign waged by Colorado for Family Values; because of the stereotypes built by myths and lies done by them, we find ourselves in a much demeaned position that will require years to correct. It is essential that we understand that CFV will not stop now--nor will they even slow down. In fact, it may be anticipated that they will only intensify their efforts.

On January 31, we will hold a meeting for all interested groups to discuss details and answer questions. The meeting will be in the GATES COMMON ROOM AT COLORADO COLLEGE AT 7PM (2nd Floor, Palmer Hall, due east of the Tutt Library.) PLEASE DO BE THERE. THIS WILL BE A DEFINING MOMENT IN THE DIRECTION OF EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF GAY AND LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS IN COLORADO SPRINGS AND SOUTHERN COLORADO, NOT ONLY FOR 1994 BUT, ALSO, FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS.

We are also eager for your organization to join us as an advisory member. We would be pleased to have it represented on our Board of Directors, that currently meets on the third Monday of each month, usually in Worner Center. (Verify with the office and we will also send out reminders if you decide you wish to be involved in this capacity). We believe this will enable us to exchange information and work more closely together on activities that groups sponsor to benefit our community.

We also would like to help create a community speakers bureau in order to coordinate educational efforts and to create a database or organizations who may wish to get information on our community. Please fill out the enclosed survey and return in the envelope provided.

Sincerely

Frank Hooker

Sue Rasspass Frank Whitworth Peter Joseph

Linda A Freeman Sally Bishop

Patrick J Mone

GROUND ZERO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PS GZ IS TRYING TO EXPAND ITS PUBLISHED CALENDAR OF EVENTS TO BE FULLY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMUNITY. LISTINGS WITH A SUPPORTING PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE IN BY THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH. FRANK IN THE OFFICE WILL TRY TO GET LISTINGS ONLY IN AS LATE AS HE IS ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE LAST MINUTE ITEMS (PRINTING USUALLY DONE ON THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH.) CALL FRANK 635-6086

It's time for us to be proactive rather than reactive. We must prepare in advance to meet the challenges from the radical right. Ground Zero has developed a campaign for 1994 that we believe should and will be embraced by the whole community. The enclosed brochure briefly explains the main points of this campaign. We will introduce the entire plan at a TOWN MEETING, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 7 PM IN THE GAYLORD ROOM AT WORNER HALL, COLORADO COLLEGE.

Although Amendment 2 has been ruled unconstitutional by a Colorado court and many people believe we are back to the position we were before the battle began, nothing could be further from the truth. Because of the malicious anti-gay campaign waged by Colorado for Family Values; because of the stereotypes built by myths and lies done by them, we find ourselves in a much demeaned position that will require years to correct. It is essential that we understand that CFV will not stop now--nor will they even slow down. In fact, it may be anticipated that they will only intensify their efforts.

We are reminded almost daily of the enormous power and resources that CFV and the entire radical right movement have built around the issue of denying Lesbians and Gays viable equal civil rights and viable participation in society and government. Money and technical support are being sent all over the country from CFV to support campaigns like that waged against Lesbians and Gays in Colorado. The same issues are raised, the same myths are told and the same rhetoric of hate is used to promote fear as were used in Colorado. Despite claims during the Amendment 2 campaign that they were only interested in Colorado, it has became apparent that CFV has a national agenda.

And despite claims during the campaign that CFV wasn't interested in or concerned with employment policies of private companies that included sexual orientation, **it is becoming very apparent that they now are targeting companies who have such regulations for coercive action to change these.** Apple, for example, is being deluged with "organized" attacks by phone and letter on its policies and with not so veiled threats of individual boycott.

IT IS APPARENT THAT CFV AND THE RADICAL RIGHT SEEK TO TOTALLY ELIMINATE LESBIAN AND GAY CITIZENS FROM VIABLE PARTICIPATION IN AMERICAN LIFE AND SOCIETY. BY DOING SO, THEY WILL HAVE ACCOMPLISHED STALIN AND HITLER'S FINAL SOLUTION FOR ANY WITH WHOM THEY HAD DIVERGENT VIEWS ALMOST AS EFFECTIVELY AS DID THEIR GAS CHAMBERS AND DEATH CAMPS. AMERICANS MUST BE TAUGHT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE QUESTION---**"IF WE LET THIS HAPPEN, WHO WILL BE NEXT??"**

Our community is in for a long range attack on its rights and its viability. The campaign Ground Zero has developed is designed to turn this long struggle in a proactive direction, not to deal with the immediacy of a political campaign but, rather, to address the long range question of full and inclusive civil rights for Lesbians and Gays as well as for all citizens of the United States.

GROUND ZERO

PLAN ON ATTENDING THE SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6TH TOWN MEETING AT 7 PM

GAYLORD HALL, WORNER CENTER AT COLORADO COLLEGE

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SEE PRESS RELEASE ON BACK

MAJOR CONFERENCE

NEW FACES FOR JUSTICE

A Conference of Individuals and Organization Representatives from Across the State Meeting to Develop Improved Lines of Communications, Understanding, Information Sharing and United Directions. The Meeting Will Be Facilitated by Neutral Parties and Will Only Be loosely Structured As To Agenda, Encouraging, Rather, Free-Spirited Interaction.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

NORTH TEJON AT ST. VRAIN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29 1994

TEN TO FOUR

NO FEES CHARGED

CALL GROUND ZERO WITH QUESTIONS

1-719-635-6086

THIS EVENT IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED NOT TO BE DOMINATED BY ANY ONE GROUP NOR IS IT PROPELLED BY ANY ESTABLISHED IDEOLOGICAL OR PHILOSOPHICAL VIEWPOINTS OTHER THAN ITS COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING FULL LESBIAN AND GAY CIVIL RIGHTS. IT IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE BY ANY ONE GROUP, INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION TO IMPOSE OR PROMOTE ITS OWN SPECIAL AGENDA.

GROUND ZERO

"OUT" SERIES
JANUARY SCHEDULE

TUESDAY JANUARY 25TH 9 TO 10PM
CABLE CHANNEL 9

THREE PROGRAMS OF INTEREST
1. OUR CONSITITUTIONAL HERITAGE (ACLU) 2. RELIGIOUS RIGHT THEN AND NOW (PFAW)
3. HATE CRIMES (ADL)

COME OUT!
COLORADO

NEW FACES FOR JUSTICE
DISCUSSES GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL CIVIL RIGHTS
AT FORUM IN COLORADO SPRINGS

for immediate release 18 January 94

(Denver) - On Saturday, January 29, an open forum for gay, lesbian and bisexual civil rights in Colorado will take place at the First Congregational Church in Colorado Springs (corner of Tejon and Vrain), from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

This event is sponsored by COME OUT! COLORADO, hosted by Ground Zero and will be facilitated by two Amendment 2 analysts from the Colorado media, Kathy Deitsch and Barbara Jabaily. New Faces For Justice is open to any group, organization or individual with a post-Amendment 2 track record of action toward gay, lesbian & bisexual civil rights in Colorado. Groups with plans for future actions/missions toward gay civil rights are encouraged to attend.

The forum's goal is to analyze our movement's strengths and weaknesses by encouraging open and honest dialogue between groups, individuals and organizations who have been fighting for gay, lesbian & bisexual civil rights in Colorado. Civil rights groups will be given time to present a synopsis of their accomplishments, and plans for the upcoming year in the struggle for lesbian, gay & bisexual civil rights in Colorado.

Please bring any campaign/informational material you may have for distribution. You may submit your group's summary, in writing, to the facilitator (phone (303) 455-2744) before the 29th, or bring it that day.

Registration is free for all participants, but donations will be accepted at the door. Please call (303) 399-8300 to register. The forum will be closed to the press upon any requests.

contact: Chris Greenwald (303)399-8300